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# Press Release

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## **FEDERAL AGENCIES TO DISCUSS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES WITH LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS**

**LOS ANGELES – October 6, 2010** – The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) announced today it will host a special meeting with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to highlight Federal funding opportunities available to Southern California, for alternative fuel vehicles. The meeting will take place Thursday, October 7, 2010, 11:00 a.m. to noon at SCAG’s main office, 818 West Seventh Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, Los Angeles.

“SCAG is enthusiastic about the prospect of helping bring more clean energy projects and funding to the 190 cities of the Southern California region,” said SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhrata. “Creating jobs, infusing our local economy and preserving quality of life through sustainable projects are winning strategies for our region and our state. I’m happy to be able to provide information on these opportunities to our members.”

In addition to the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presentations, recent Clean Cities projects in the SCAG region will be on display in the main lobby of the SCAG building from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. An alternative fuel vehicle exhibit will also be displayed in the building’s parking structure.

Representatives from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) and the San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG) will also be on-hand to answer any questions. Both agencies have projects currently being implemented by funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and the Department of Energy.

“With an emphasis on the economy and job creation, these green programs provide significant opportunities for innovative cities looking to promote alternative fuel vehicles within their communities,” said SCAG Chief Economic Advisor Jack Kyser. “As an example, the

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SANBAG project alone will create 400 new jobs in the region and will contribute to the maintenance and creation of another 400 green automotive jobs nationally.”

Since 1993, the Clean Cities program has sought to advance the energy, economic and environmental security of the United States by supporting local decisions to adopt practices that reduce the use of petroleum in the transportation sector. Since its inception, Clean Cities and its stakeholders have displaced more than 2 billion gallons of petroleum.

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***About SCAG***

*SCAG is the nation’s largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 190 cities and more than 19 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG’s regional efforts, please visit [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov).*